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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY USSR (Baltic Sea)/East Germany/Poland REPORT

SUBJECT Soviet Naval Vessels Sighted in the Baltic DATE DISTR. 6 February 1959

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REFERENCES

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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Four reports describing Soviet naval vessels observed in the Baltic area

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Att. No.

Vessels

1

Sassnitz: KRONSTADT-class submarine chasers
 Swinoujscie: three RIGA-class escort vessels. Off Kronstadt: one T-43-class minesweeper. In Kronstadt: KIROV-class cruiser [REDACTED] SVERDLOV-class cruiser the ADMIRAL MAKAROV, the VYBORG. In the Fontanka Canal in Leningrad: two cruiser hulls, one was newly-painted; the other only partly painted.

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2

Swinoujscie: three RIGA-class escort vessels. Riga: three possible T-43-class minesweepers. Daugavgriva: six unidentified vessels. Sassnitz: KRONSTADT-class submarine chasers

3

Destroyer [REDACTED] off Sursaari; old-type cruiser in tow in Morskoy Kanal, Hull red-leaded.

4

Klaipeda: Naval vessel [REDACTED] two P-6-class MTBs, repair shop [REDACTED]

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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Source description

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SECRET

ad. 7

[redacted] the following naval vessels were stationed [redacted] 50X1-HUM
in Memel Harbor [redacted]

1. one vessel [redacted]
2. 2 motor torpedo boats of type P-6, [redacted] and [redacted] torpedo tubes. A medium-sized mast was mounted on the deck shortly behind the bridge; it had a star-shaped device mounted on top and protruded over the bridge level; 2
3. one repair ship [redacted] having a pontoon-like [redacted] craft in tow. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

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Comments

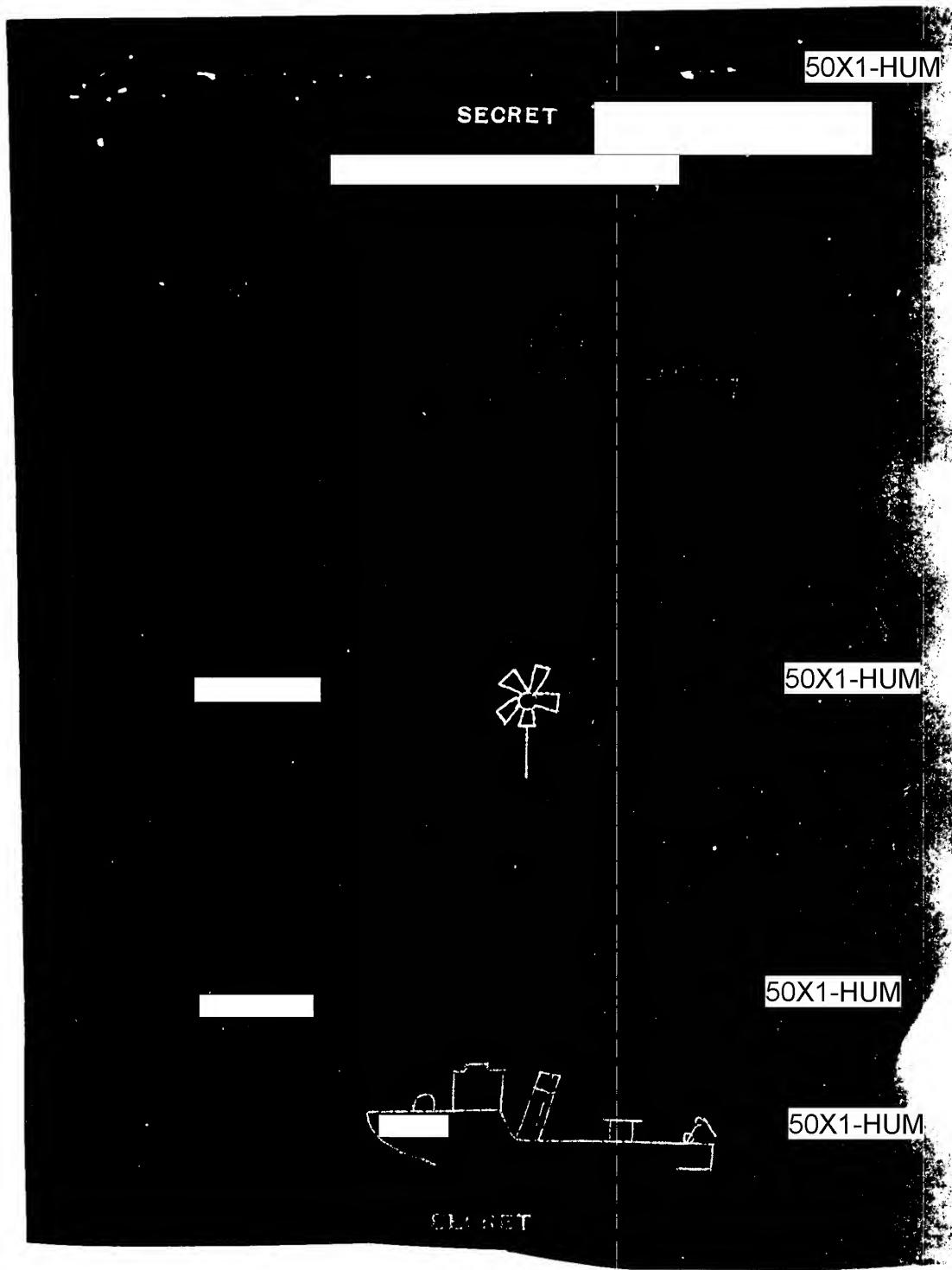
1. Vessel [redacted] is presumably a submarine chaser of the KRONSTADT Class. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
2. A motor torpedo boat without torpedo tubes had been observed in Memel [redacted]. The sketch of the star-shaped device on top of the mast does not allow a clear identification of the device. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
3. Auxiliary vessel [redacted] has been observed for the first time. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

For sketch, see Annex.

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SECRET - [redacted]

Distribution:



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1. [REDACTED] there was seen about 20' east of the island of Fogland a destroyer [REDACTED] / ~~Catleland~~ had a step in the deckline about abreast of the first funnel.

2. [REDACTED] there was observed in Leningrad a cruiser similar to an old style ship being pulled by two tugs from the inner part of the harbor and which was finally moored at a wooden quay in the south end of the Morskoy Canal. This old ship had the following appearance:

A step in the deckline aft of the foremost stack, no masts, two stacks, relatively far apart from one another and with an empty space between them, the foremasts funnel being somewhat higher, and the latter with a somewhat bent top, a superstructure forward of the first stack, and a smaller deck structure aft of the rear funnel, no armament, the hull entirely red-leaded, and at the water line a white colored band about 12 or 13cm broad.

During the evening there was taken on board the ship, by means of some large cranes on the quay, some heavy iron objects, whose construction the observer could not see on account of the darkening light. The guards aboard the ship consisted of soldiers in brown uniforms.

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1. The following vessels were observed in Swinemünde [REDACTED]

- a. Three IIGA-class frigates.
- b. A number of minesweepers.

2. The following were observed [REDACTED]

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Riga - Export Harbor

- a. Three vessels similar to the T-43 class.
- b. Two schooner-rigged training ships.

Dünamünde

- c. Six small vessels, some of the T-43 class.

3. [REDACTED] in Sassnitz, daily or on separate occasions, the KRONSHTADT-class subchasers [REDACTED] were observed.

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The following observations were made

In Sassinia were submarine [REDACTED] of the KRONSTADT class.

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In Swinemünde were three frigates of the RIGA class, a number of smaller vessels and about twenty motor torpedo boats.

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Between the Kronstadt and Leningrad lightships was seen [REDACTED] minesweeper of the T-43 class engaged in minesweeping. In Kronstadt were cruiser [REDACTED] of the KINOV class, the cruiser ADMIRAL MAKAROV, a cruiser of the SVENDIÖV class, the armored ship VYBORG, and a number of other warships which could not be identified on account of darkness. In the Fontaka Canal were two cruiser hulls, one of them newly painted and the other only partly painted, and equipped with freshly painted plates in the midship and forecastle construction areas. The cruiser hull at the transverse quay (tvärkajen) in the Morskoy canal was gone, and at the position a large merchant ship now lies.

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